39. (original): The method of processing requests, as set forth in claim 38, wherein the act of storing a second request comprises the act of storing a second read request in a fixed register.

40. (currently amended): A queue structure comprising:

> a queue entry pool comprising a plurality of fixed registers configured to store
>> requests, wherein each of the plurality of fixed registers is configured to
>> store a plurality of flags corresponding to the status of each request; and
> an entry shifter coupled to the queue entry pool and comprising a plurality of
>> shift registers, each of the shift registers is configured to store a request
>> corresponding to a request stored in one of the plurality of fixed registers.

41. (original): The queue structure, as set forth in claim 40, wherein the queue entry pool is configured to store read requests.

42. (cancelled)

43. (original): The queue structure, as set forth in claim ~~42~~ 41, wherein each of the plurality of fixed registers is configured to store each of a valid entry flag, an entry ready flag and a retire entry flag for the corresponding request.

44. (previously presented): The queue structure, as set forth in claim 43, comprising a flag multiplexor coupled to each of the queue entry pool and the entry shifter and configured to receive a plurality of input signals, each of the plurality of input signals corresponding to one of